

Application No. 09/936,041

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center and the drain region is shorter than a distance between the recombination center and the source region.

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REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in this application. By this Supplemental Amendment, claim 14 is amended. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Applicants gratefully appreciate the courtesy extended to Applicants' attorney during the August 20 personal interview with Examiner Roman. The points discussed during the interview are reemphasized in this Supplemental Amendment.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Blake (U.S. Patent No. 4,965,213); claims 1-3, 5 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Gardner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,005,285); claims 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gardner; and claims 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Blake. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

During the interview on August 20, the Examiner agreed that claims 1-13, as recited in the Amendment filed on August 2, distinguish over the applied references. The Examiner also recommended that Applicants similarly amend independent claim 14 so that claim 14 will also distinguish over the applied references. Therefore, Applicants amend claim 14 to more clearly recite that a distance between the recombination center and the drain region is shorter than a distance between the recombination center and the source region. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.